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Date of Deposit

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1646

BERNASCONI ET AL.

Examiner: M.T. Brannock

APPLICATION NO: 09/955,381 FILED: SEPTEMBER 18, 2001

FOR: USE OF GABAB RECEPTOR LIGANDS FOR THE TREATMENT OF

NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASES

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of January 30, 2004 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on April 30, 2004. A three-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis in the amount of \$950 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis Corporate Intellectual Property One Health Plaza, Building 430 East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date: July 30, 2004

Edward J.(Wilusz) Jr.
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